Regd. No. L 7676

The TAHRIK-i-Jadid

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Editor :
NASEEM SAIFI

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TABLIGH 1355 H.S.
FEBRUARY 1976 C.E.

Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Vakil-i-Aala, Vakilut Tabshir, with the members of the Jamaat in Spain. Extreme right is Maulvi K. A. Zafar.

مکرم و محترم صاحبزادہ مرزا مبارک احمد صاحب وکیل اعلی ،
وکیل التبشیر سپین میں احمدیہ جماعت کے افراد کے ساتھ
دائیں طرف سے پہلے مکرم مولوی کرم الٰہی صاحب ظفر
کھڑے ہیں

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

MONTHLY

TAHRIK-i-JADID

RABWAH

VOL. XII — No. 2
FEBRUARY 1976

Editor
NASEEM SAIFI

THE TAHRIK-I-JADID

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A magazine for reporting the day to day progress of Islamic Missions all over the world. It also tells you how religious confrontation is taking place and where and how Islam is winning converts.

This Magazine also carries the gist of the Friday Sermons and other speeches made by the Supreme Head of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat—Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III and reports the events taking place at the International Headquarters of the Jamaat—Rabwah—Pakistan.

The subscription of the Magazine is only Five Rupees for one year in Pakistan and India and one pound abroad. Address communications to the Managing Editor at the following address:

c/o Tahrik-i-Jadid, Rabwah.
(Pakistan)

or c/o Ahmadiyya Mission in your own country—to be redirected by the Mission concerned.

Managing Editor

ISTIGHFAR:

Strength for soul and steadfastness for heart

IT should be remembered that the Umma (the Muslims) have been granted two things. One, to achieve strength and two, to display that strength. Istighfar is meant to get strength; in other words it is seeking after help. *Sufis* say that just as taking exercise with the help of some heavy things (called *Mugdars* and *Mogris*) gives strength to the body so is the case with Istighfar i.e. it gives strength to the soul and also grants steadfastness to the heart. Whoever wishes to get strength should do Istighfar (ask for forgiveness) *Ghafar* actually means to cover or to suppress. Istighfar helps to cover and suppress the feelings and the thoughts which try to take the man away from God. Thus Istighfar means to overpower the poisonous matter that attacks man to undo him, and by removing the checks and hurdles in the way of obeying the commands of Allah, to act upon those commands in a practical manner.

(*Continued on page* 4)

Printed at the Nusrat Art Press, Rabwah & published by Abaul Latif Khan for Tahrik-i-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan, Rabwah.

THANK GOD THE JALSA WAS SO SUCCESSFUL

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On the 2nd of January (Friday) Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III said in his Friday Sermon : We have no adequate words to offer our thanks to the Almighty God and to praise Him for the success with which He so graciously blessed our Jalsa Salana. Some people thought that perhaps for the changed circumstances the members of the Jamaat might not be able to attend the Jalsa in as large numbers as they used to do before. But the fact is that contrary to their thinking, the members of the Jamaat crossed all the hurdles and have come in a much larger number than before. All praise belongs to Allah.

"On this occasion there is another aspect that has come to light. That aspect is that whereas when the educational institutions were nationalised we handed over our property worth fifty million rupees to the Government with cheerfulness, some of the very authorities to whom these properties were handed over, told us that we could not use these buildings for the guests who would come to attend the Jalsa. Of course when we tried to make them understand the situation they did grant the permission for the use of the buildings. This is something for the Jamaat to ponder over and they should make arrangement for the building of barracks on an area of thousands of square feet ; it is in these barracks that our guests will be lodged. Friends should also pray that God may remove the hurdles that are coming in our way."

Next Huzur announced the New Year of Waqfi Jadid and in this connection drew the attention of the authorities concerned to the fact that the contribution by the children was not satisfactory.

Huzur also told the Jamaat to send such people to the Waqfi Jadid who would be given a training of two to three months and then they would go back to their Jamaats and teach them.

At the close of his Khutba, he drew the attention of the Jamaat to upbringing of the children. He remarked that he had told them at the Jalsa that the children should be taught the Islamic morals and they should be made to practise them. This is how they can win the love of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and this is how we can gather the people under the banner of the Holy Prophet with a quicker pace. We should very fervently pray for the achievement of this objective, he said.

Four Categories of people

On Friday the 9th of January 1976, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III, said : "The Jamaat has now spread to all the parts of the world and for the past three years the delegates from these Jamaats come to Rabwah to attend the Jalsa Salana ; they travel thousands of miles to join us here on this occasion. The biggest delegation, this year, has come from America. They are 41 in number and they are scheduled to leave today after the Friday Prayer. Today I should like to say a few things to the whole Jamaat in general and to this delegation in particular."

Then Huzur recited some verses from the Holy Quran showing that there are various types of people who believe in God, the Sustainer of the worlds. Those types are :

(1) Those fortunate people who claim to believe in God and then steadfastly stay on the right path and no power of the world can remove them from there. These are the people who deserve the paradise of the pleasure of God. (2) Those weak persons who despite their weaknesses try to reform one another and ultimately join the group of the sincere people who have been mentioned in the first category. (3) Those who are spiritually sick but the company of the righteous people has a very healthy effect on them ; they also can be influenced by the bad people. It is difficult to reform them but the efforts to do so must never be abandoned. (4) The hypocrites about whom God says that He increases their disease as a result of their evil deeds. Their future is therefore, more dreadful and ugly than their past. They cover nefarious acts of disorder and disruption under their intention to do good to the people. It is possible to reform them, but the people must beware of them and know where they stand."

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Huzur said, "The Ahmadis living in America also fall under these four categories. Our American Brothers should follow the example of those whose faith is strong and they should not take the people of weak faith as an example for them. They should follow those who are steadfast and strong of faith. They should also pray and help one another to become better and continue advancing in faith and certainty. They should not abandon their efforts to lift up the weak brothers.

These things, Huzur said, are meant for the whole Jamaat and it is therefore essential for everybody to remain steadfast and to do good deeds in order to win the pleasure of God. All of us should try to help our weaker brothers.

—◀▶—

Reform yourself and Pray to God

On Friday the 16th of January 1976, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III told the Jamaat that opposition was on the increase and that those who were opposing us were also opposed to the Government, but they were demanding from the Government that it should act against us.

Huzur further remarked that it was quite evident that the Ahmadiyya Jamaat is not a political party nor do we have any interest in politics. "We are a spiritual and religious body and we have been blessed

by God to accept the Mahdi who has been raised by God in this age in accordance with the prophecies of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him ; this Mahdi has been raised for the supremacy of Islam in the whole world. No doubt, we are very low in the eyes of the worldly people, and we are poor and without any support according to them, but what we have witnessed so far strengthens our faith and certainty in the fact that our Guardian and our Support is Allah who is the fountain—head of all power. He looks at us with affection and He helps us."

Huzur said "When the opposition is on the increase, the heavenly dispensations have two responsibilities to carry out. One is that we should check up ourselves collectively and reform where needed and thus removing our shortcomings we should try to attract the mercy of God. The other responsibility is that we should pray and pray very fervently that we may achieve our objective and that objective is that the banner of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, may be raised high in the whole world and that Islam may dominate all the false religions. We should pray to God that we may always look towards Him and He may shower His mercy on us and make us successful.

Huzur further said, Those who really and truly make God their Support and take Him as their Guardian do not mind the fire of trials and tribulations. Our aim is to win the hearts with love and affection. Those who take us as their opponents should know that we are not their enemies ; we always wish for their betterment."

In the present situation through which we are passing we should try to remove our shortcomings and thus reform ourselves ; also we should pray very fervently."

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Huzur prayed to God that the whole Jamaat may be enabled to perform its duties in the best possible manner.

(*Continued from page 1*)

This also should be remembered that there are two kinds of matters. One, the poison which is handled by the Satan and, two, the elixir. When a man shows pride and thinks that he is somebody to be reckoned with and does not seek help from the elixir, the poison overpowers him. But when he humbles himself and realises that he is nobody and very low and thus feels the need of the help of God then Allah really produces a fountain through which his soul begins to flow. This is what Istighfar means i.e. to overpower the poisonous matter with the power received from God.

Malfoozat Vol. II pp. 67, 68.

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JALSA SALANA

THE 83rd Annual Conference (Jalsa Salana) of the world wide Ahmadiyya Jamaat was held at Rabwah on the 26th—28th December 1975. In addition to the inaugural speech Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III, may God help him, addressed the Gathering on the second day and the third day also. Other speakers on this occasion were Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Maulana Abul Ata, Maulana Qazi Mohammad Nazir, Maulana Abdul Malik Khan, Sahibzada Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Sayed Mahmud Ahmad Nasir, Maulana Ghulam Bari Saif, Maulana Mohammad Munawar, Maulana Dost Mohammad, Sahibzada Mirza Anas Ahmad, Sheikh Mubarak Ahmad.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III in his inaugural address remarked that the main objective of the establishment of the Jamaat was to work for the supremacy of Islam all over the world and the Jamaat had to do so with great humility. He exhorted the members of the Jamaat never to forget that they had been raised to give service to the world and therefore they were in no case expected to harbour enmity towards anyone in the world whoever he might be. He said, "A true Ahmadi cannot have enmity for anyone, he simply cannot do so; he has to serve everybody and the Jamaat must act accordingly."

In the beginning of his Address, he told the audienee that he was a little late to reach the Jalsagah (the premises of the Jalsa) and that was due to the fact that the Jalsa authorities concerned did not take it into consideration that the Chenab Express had to run through Rabwah at the very time when he was scheduled to be at the Jalsa. The Railway trains, in our country, he said, usually do not run on time and therefore delay can be caused any-where.

Huzur also told the audience that "the Railway authorities do not care for the comfort of the passengers and because of that, thousands of those travelling to Rabwah for this Jalsa have been put to hardship, even now thousands of them are stranded in different places." Huzur said that he "prayed to God that all those who are passing through hardships and have not been able to reach here in time and all those who wanted to come to Rabwah but found themselves unable to do so for one reason or the other, should participate in our prayers and God may shower His blessings on them also, as we pray that He may shower His blessings on those who are present here."

Huzur said, "Now we will start our Jalsa with prayers. The most essential and the most effective prayer is contained in the Suratul Fatiha.

It is a very comprehensive prayer. It makes mention of the four basic attributes of God (Rabbul Aalameen, Ar Rahman, Ar-Rahim, Malik-i-Yaumiddin) and the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, has called them the *Ummus Sifat* (the mother of the Attributes). This is a very comprehensive prayer and we must be offering it very often and we should also try to reflect these qualities in our own lives."

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Also, he said, the prayers taught us by the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, are very comprehensive ; they touch all the aspects of our life.

Huzur remarked that he had selected nine prayers (from the prayers of the Holy Prophet, peace be on him). He read out these prayers and also gave their Urdu translation. These prayers were taken from Al-Jami-us Saghir (Part I) by Jalaluddin Abdur Rahman bin Abi Bakr As-Sayyuti, a great Muslim scholar and saint who lived from 1445CE to 1505CE. After these prayers, Huzur said, "The Promised Messiah, peace be on him, has also offered countless prayers for the supremacy of Islam and for the onward march and progress of the Jamaat."

Huzur prayed that God may accept all the prayers which the Promised Messiah had offered. This Jalsa Salana, he said, as the friends know is not a worldly fair, It is so high a thing that the worldly people cannot even understand it. Our prayers, our wishes and our efforts are all directed towards the achievement of the supremacy of Islam and it is such a grand Jihad started through the advent of the Promised Messiah, that it is ultimately going to win over the whole world and gather it together under the banner of the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. Huzur further remarked that the Jamaat had no interest in the world that takes man away from God, for, such a world is a source of misfortune and a curse. All our efforts revolve round the achievement of the love of God and winning of His pleasure. May we always have the blessing of His love and may His angels descend from the heavens to guide us. Let the world do what it likes to do, but let everybody know that the wish and will of God will come to pass. The will of God has already been made known fourteen hundred years ago. God told the Holy Prophet about the advent of the Promised Messiah and made it clear that "the supremacy of Islam will take place in the latter days. We should pray to God that the world may recognise him and accept him, for, the Holy Prophet has said that his Salam should be conveyed to him (the Promised Messiah).

Huzur further remarked that the Jamaat had witnessed the manifestation of God and it had come to pass that the voice of the person who was ignored by his own people and had to go at times unfed, was heard all over the world. God revealed to him." I shall cause thy message to reach the corners of the earth" and this revelation has seen fulfilment and the blessed people who have heard his message in various corners of the earth are present here. Huzur asked the delegates from foreign countries to stand up (and they did so). At this juncture the audience shouted slogans of Allaho Akbar, Islam Zindabad and Ahmadiyyat Zindabad. Huzur remarked that this glad tiding that was given to the Promised Messiah could be effaced from the

books and from the walls, but it could not be effaced from the hearts of the people—and it had now encircled the whole earth (there is no place where this prophecy remains unknown and there is no place where its fulfilment has not become manifest).

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At the close of his Address he reminded the Jamaat that it had been raised for the supremacy of Islam and they had to achieve it through humility. They must never forget, he said, that an Ahmadi is the enemy of none ; he has to serve the world. Everybody must realise the responsibilities that are placed on his shoulders and do all he can to fulfil them to the best of his abilities.

At the end of this Address Huzur led the whole audience in silent prayer. He declared the Jalsa inaugurated and left the premises for the rest of the programme to continue.

The delegates from 14 countries of America, Europe, Africa and Asia came to attend the Jalsa Salana. The countries and the number of the delegates from each country are given below :

Denmark	1
England	2
West Germany	4
Sweden	3
Nigeria	2
Uganda	1
Kenya	1
Sierra Leone	4
Canada	1
Mauritius	4
Siri Lanca	1
Ghana	4
America	41
Indonesia	12

ON the second day of the Jalsa, before introducing the periodicals and new books published by the various departments of the Jamaat or by individuals, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih talked about a basic truth. He said, "In the last century the European nations made great progress in the field of Science and Philosophy and as a result of that they grabbed vast areas of Africa and Asia. The Christian Missionaries made full use of this opportunity and opened Schools and Hospitals in these areas thus getting the Muslims converted to Christianity. The Muslims, no doubt, felt it very much, but since they lacked the knowledge of Science and Philosophy, they could not defend Islam against the attacks of the European nations and they told their fellow Muslims not to learn Science or Philosophy as sponsored by the progressing nations. They did not realise that the Holy Quran had taught them that every thing in the Universe is subservient to mankind and is created for his benefit. However this is a historical fact that cannot be denied that instead of making these sciences their servant, the Muslims kept themselves away from them. This being the situation through which the Muslims were passing God gave the glad tindings to the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, to the following effect :

"You ..uld remember this prophecy that in the near future the enemy will have to retreat with great humiliation, in this battle, (the battle between the new sciences and Islam) Islam will be victorious. However severe might be the attacks of the new science and whatever their new weapons that they use against Islam, the ultimate defeat will definitely be theirs. As a mark of gratitude I should like to make it known that I have been

vouchsafed the knowledge of the great powers of Islam and I dare say that not only Islam can defend against all attacks of the new philosophies, it will rather prove that the new philosophies are nothing but ignorance. The domain of Islam has nothing to fear the onslaughts of the philosophy and science. The days of the ascendancy (of Islam) are approaching and I could see that the signs of its victory are clearly visible on the skies. The ascendancy is spiritual and this victory is also spiritual so that the powers of the false knowledge which are inimical to Islam may be so weakened that they should be as if they have become non-existent."

(Aina-i Kamalat-i-Islam)

The Promised Messiah also said,

"God the Almighty has told me again and again that He would grant me greatness and He would cause my love to be put in the hearts and He would spread my dispensation in the whole world and make it dominant over all other Sects. The members of my Sect will attain to such perfection in knowledge and God-realisation that with the light of their truth and with arguments and signs they will make everybody dumbfounded." (Tajalliyat-i Ilahiyya)

DEFENCE OF ISLAM

Having mentioned these glad tidings vouchsafed by God to the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih remarked that the task that has been assigned to the Ahmadis is that they should give crushing replies to the attacks that are being made by the new sciences; we should produce and prepare such young people who can give these replies and prove the truth of Islam. Huzur said, "it is vitally important to pay attention to this matter. One suggestion is that the young people should devote themselves for learning the subjects that are not taught in Pakistan and Indonesia and the Jamaat will arrange for their studies in oteer countries and grant them scholarships for this purpose. They should also learn more about Islam. That will help them to serve Islam with the knowledge that they will gain in other countries. Having completed their studies they should go to the European countries and tell the people that they have been granted knowledge and insight by God and nobody could stand it. We thank God that our children are very bright and it is the duty of the Jamaat to make the best use of these children. Any community that does not do so in respect of its children is ungrateful."

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SCHOLARSHIPS

"Some people have started placing hurdles in our way but I should like to announce, here and now, one scholarship that has been offered by the Jamaat in England. I have decided that this scholarship should not be earmarked for an Ahmadi youth; I declare it to be an open merit scholarship. The scholars who pass M.A. or M.Sc in 1976 will be able to compete and the best of them—he might belong to any sect—will get this scholarship. I hope the Jamaat in America will offer one scholarship and likewise some Jamaat in Africa will also offer a scholarship. Thus the difficulty of the exchange that stands in our way will be removed and our young students will get the facilities of higher studies. This is how we can make the best use of our talents. It is an undeniable fact that at the present stage of the community's development we need scholars who are well versed in the worldly sciences as well as in theology We need philosophers, we need scientists and we need learned people in other branches of knowledge as well. Once a Yugoslav met and

asked me to give him two Missionaries who could fluently speak the Yugoslav language and he remarked that the six hundred thousand Yugoslavs who are scattered all over Europe will accept Islam. We do not have enough of Missionaries who know the German language and the result is that we cannot replace those who are already in the field and therefore they have to stay there for longer periods to time. The Jamaat should be very grateful to the Missionaries who have to stay for longer periods simply because there is no one to replace them ; it is a great sacrifice and they deserve that prayer should always be offered for them.

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"In short we need such talents as can serve Islam with their worldly knowledge As a matter of necessity the Russian translation of the Holy Quran was done by a non-Muslim—we got it done—but we do not have any Ahmadi who can revise it ; this Ahmadi must have very good knowledge of the Russian language. Unless it is revised, it cannot be published. That shows the importance of learning languages. We should have hundreds rather thousands of scholars of languages and since we don't have them at the moment, we should try to get even one if we can.

"A revelation of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, refers to the Ahmadis becoming very great scholars. The revelation is : Anta Madinatul Ilmi, that shows that the Ahmadiyyat is going to be. in future, the Madina tul Ilm or in other words the Ahmadis are going to defend Islam in every way and they are going to repel the attacks of the experts of various Sciences."

PUBLICATIONS

Huzur then introduced some recently published books and also the journals that the Jamaat or the individuals are publishing. Huzur again stressed the point that Ahmadiyyat being the Madinatul Ilm it was vitally important that the Jamaat must not waste the talents of the youth. They must try to produce such scholars as would be able to defend Islam against all the attacks from wherever they might come. When Huzur was talking about the development of the talents and he announced the scholarship awarded by the Jamaat in England, the Jamaats in America, Canada, Indonesia, and Ghana also offered scholarships for this noble purpose. Huzur announced that out of these five, scholarships, two would be on the open merit basis while the remaining would be given only to the Ahmadis ; the scholarships offered by Canada and Indonesia would be given only to the Ahmadis.

After giving the details of the responsibilities that have been placed on the shoulders of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in connection with the defence of Islam and the way the Ahmadis should carry out their duties, Huzur dilated on the work done under the programme of the Tahrik-i-Jadid, Waqf-i-Jadid, Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya, Fazl-i-Omar Foundion, Nusrat Jahan Leap Forward Programme and the Ahmadiyya Centenary Jubilee. He also told the Jamaat of the success that had been achieved through these programmes and remarked that the achievements showed the help of God that was being vouchsafed to the Jamaat and the glaring signs that He was showing for his own Community.

HELP

Huzur further said, "You know how the cost of living has risen. One of its causes is the inflation in the whole world and the other cause is

that dishonesty and moral depravity have gripped the people and disorderliness has become the order of the day. Of course those who are working here at the Headquarters of the Jamaat are working very hard and they are in the real sense making great sacrifice. We are not able to supply them all their needs but we do try to help them as much as we can and we always try that everything that can be done for them must be done and no stone be left unturned to render them the necessary help.

WAQFI AARZI

As for the Waqf-i-Aarzi and Dedication after retirement—both the schemes are doing a lot of good to the Jamaat. Those who work under the Waqf-i-Aarzi Scheme do not only help others, they help themselves as well for when they go to tell others that they should 'wakeup', they have to be more alert than others.

TAHRIK-I-JADID

Talking about the Tahrik-i-Jadid, Huzur referred to it as the scheme for strengthening Islam in the whole world This scheme was inaugurated in 1934. Huzur said, "It is an interesting aspect of the Divine Communities that God grants them strength to make sacrifices more than they are asked to make. That is what happened in the case of Tahrik-i-Jadid also. Hazrat Muslih Mauood had asked for twentyseven thousand rupees but the Jamaat offered him a hundred thousand rupees. Year after year this scheme began to achieve greater success and it has helped Islam and the Muslims all over the world. A Vice Prime Minister of Sierra Leone who is not a member of the Jamaat once said that it was really the Ahmadiyya Mission that gave them the courage of proclaiming themselves as Muslims ; they could not do so before the establishment of the Ahmadiyya Mission in his country. This fellow went to the extent of saying that now they could raise their heads high and tell everybody that with the grace of God they are Muslims.

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"It was ten years after the inauguration of the Tahrik-i-Jadid that the foreign Missions started getting some local contributions otherwise they were being run by the finances granted them by the pre-partitioned sub-continent of India. The things have now changed. They do not need a single penny from anywhere ; they have established themselves in such a way that they can carry out—and indeed they are carrying out—quite huge programmes of preaching and teaching. They are building Mission Houses, Mosques, Schools and publishing literature. They are also training their Missionaries for the expansion of their activities. In fact when we think of their progress our hearts are filled with the praises of God who is manifesting Himself there in abundance.

GOETENBERG MOSQUE

Huzur also made mention of the laying of the foundation stone of the Goetenberg Mosque and described the place where it is situated. He said, "It is situated on a high place from where you can see the whole city. This place was not considered to be very good for habitation but God has selected it for His own House and has blessed it to become the centre of the preaching and teaching of Islam. What a grand grace of God it is that He is establishing Islamic centres in Europe for exalting His name. I have told the Jamaat

in Norway too that they should look for a piece of land for the mosque and I hope that their mosque will start in 1977. As for the translation of the Holy Quran we have already published it in seven languages. In some others we have published parts of the Holy Quran and we are trying to complete them at the earliest. Friends should pray that we may get scholars who know these languages perfectly so that no flaws are left in the translations. I have received two copies of the Holy Quran from Iran. They have been published by the Shahinsha of Iran and by Queen Farah. I am really pleased to see these copies so nicely printed and I pray to God that He may grant them abundant reward for printing the Holy Quran so nicely."

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Huzur also gave some details of the Waqf-i-Jadid, Fazl-i-Omar Darsul Quran Class and Fazl-i-Omar Foundation and Nusrat Jahan Reserve Fund. The Nusrat Jahan Reserve Fund has helped the Jamaat to open a number of Secondary Schools and Dispensaries in West Africa He said, "I was advised to put the funds of the Majlis Nusrat Jahan in trade but I did not accept this advice. I told my friends that I will trade with God ; I will directly spend this money for His cause and He will definitely give me the increase. I am glad to tell the Jamaat that this Fund has worked wonders. Thousands of children are learning to become better Muslims and hundreds of thousands of patients have been treated free of charge. It is a great blessing of God and no better use of this money could ever be thought of."

Huzur read out some of the remarks of the leaders of opinion in West Africa published in the newspapers lauding the activities of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in connection with the opening of the schools and the hospitals.

Huzur also announced that in view of the situation through which the Jamaat was passing he had arranged to compile the Ahmadiyya jurisprudence in respect of marriage and inheritance. It would be presented to the Majlis-i-Shoora and then the authorities concerned would be told that this is the jurisprudence to which we adhere.

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Before closing his Address Huzur said, "Due to lack of facilities of transport the members of the Jamaat had to face great hardship to attend this Jalsa. But I know that all of them tried all they could to surmount these difficulties. Though a little late they did arrive here for this noble occasion. Their determination was great ; the fountainhead of this determination is faith. Had it been a fair where the people had to witness the fights of the dogs or had to see the monkeys and bears or the children had to enjoy the merry go round, the People could have avoided coming to this place with the plea that these things could be seen elsewhere too. But they knew that what they were going to get from here could not be got from anywhere else and that is why they tried all they could to surmount the difficulties and they did join us here. They had to get the pleasure of God and they had to win His love. This they could not do elsewhere. Such people it must be remembered cannot be overcome by any difficulties. They are not made of the stuff which knows defeatism nor are they the people to turn their backs and run away. God bless them and God be their Helper and Guide all the time. Amen.

ON the third day of the Jalsa (the 28th of December) Huzur addressed the audience, as usual, in the second session. He said, "Islam is a perfect religion. God Himself says in the Holy Quran .. Al yauma akmalto lakum deenakum .. (This day have I perfected your religion for you). Generally it is considered —and it is not quite correct—that this perfect religion consists of just a few things. It in fact, covers all the aspects of life and all the powers that have been granted to man have to be put under its control The Promised Messiah, peace be on him, says that basically Islam consists of two things : 1, the duties that man owes to God and 2, the duties that he owes to his fellow beings. If these duties are performed conscientiously and completely, then and then alone one can call oneself a perfect Muslim. So far as the duties towards God are concerned, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, says that not only sacrificing the life but carrying on doing ones duty the whole of his life is required to deserve being included among those who are true Muslims. The other part of our duties is the one connected with human beings. The Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, says that he has been sent to perfect good morals. He therefore is the model for us and he is the one who should be followed in detail to perform our duties towards human beings."

Huzur dilated on the etiquettes and morals and he did so in the light of what the Promised Messiah has said in his book (which was originally the text of an Address) The Teachings of Islam. Huzur said, "Islam picks the man from his lowest standard and develops his physical, mental and spiritual capabilities. This development changes the man altogether —it lifts him high from his animal stage and takes him to be godly person. The two basic morals that are involved in this are : to avoid evil and to do good to others. The fact is that Islam guides us in every aspect of life and in the minutest details so much so that it tells us how to eat and how to walk about and how to talk to others. In order to be benefited by the teachings of Islam, it is vitally important that we should act upon them. We should first learn them and then make them a part of our lives. That and that alone can win for us the love of God. Also that is the very thing that can help us make Islam dominant in the world. There is no doubt about it that Islam must become dominant, but we have to work for it. We have to plan it and we have to execute the plan. We must learn the morals that Islam teaches and we must equip our children with these morals.

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Having given more details of it, Huzur announced the inauguration of the Jihad for Islamic morals. He instructed the Jamaat to appoint some learned people to compile a book containing the Islamic instructions about morals. This compilation should be presented to all the members of the Jamaat, be they old or young and they should be reminded again and again to act upon them. He asked the Jamaat to get ready for it. They have to mould their lives according to the life of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

At the close of his Address Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III said, "Let us now pray and the sphere of our prayers should extend to all the human beings all over the world ; the atheists of Russia as well as the capitalists of the Western countries.

We should pray for them that God my grant them understanding to realise His existence and His Omnipotence. The people of the world are moving in a direction which will undo them. We should also pray for those Muslims about whom the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, has said, that since they claim to love the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, we should not leave them out rather we should be kindly disposed towards them. We should also pray for the Jamaat which is at the moment condemned by the world ; the opponents begin to accuse it of various things and declare that its members should be punished. Of course if our lives have to be sacrificed for the rejuvination of Islam, we are most gladly prepared to get our necks cut. But the glad tindings that God has given us show that we have not been raised to die, we have been raised to live ; we are not destined to be defeated, our destiny is victory. The failure is not a part of the stuff of which we are made. We are not there to kill, we are there to give life. Let the world treat us as it likes we shall continue trying all we can to do good to it.

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Hoisting of Flags

Before the arrival of Hazrat Khafifatul Masih at the premises of the Jalsa the Flag of Pakistan was hoisted by Maulana Abdul Malik Khan, Nazir, Islaho Irshad. While the Flag was being hoisted all those present there kept standing and shouted the slogan of Pakistan Zindabad.

After this, the representive of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat, Indonesia, Mr. Moertolo hoisted the Flag of Ahmadiyyat. Mr. Moertolo is at present the Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Indonesia. He has also served the Jamaat there as President General for two terms.

Mr. Moertolo is connected with legal profession and has served his country as the Assistant Attorney General.

During the hoisting of the Ahmadiyya Flag, Ch. Shabbir Ahmad read out a poem composed by the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, in a very melodious voice.

Panting Breath

Where clamouring cries of young
and old
And wailing tales of deadly woe
Are getting loud and louder yet
It's there that I must go.

My starry nights have sprinkled
fire
My warmth of days has lost its
charm
My dreams are haunted by
demon of death

My hopes are sounding a ghastly
alarm
I hear a call that comes from far
I hear a panting breath
I come, I come, my heart replies
Respite, a little respite, O death.

Eness

Lajna Imaillah

Hazrat Sayyeda Maryam Siddiqa, President, Lajna Imaillah Central addressed the Women Section of the Jalsa on the 26th of December (the first day of the Jalsa). A gist of her speech is given below :

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Hazrat Sayyeda Sahiba said, "This is the 83rd Jalsa Salana of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat which you have been blessed by God to attend. You should try all you can to derive the greatest benefit out of it and you should be meticulously careful not to waste even a single moment of your stay here. Do not take yourselves as guests; you are actually at home, for, the headquarters is no less than a home for all the Ahmadis all over the world. We try our level best to give you satisfactory service but please do not mind what might be considered as flaws in giving service to you. I should like to advise you to listen to the speeches of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III very attentively; also listen to other speeches and mould your lives according to the Islamic teachings that are mentioned in them. You should make up your mind that whatever you will be told for your good, you will act upon it. You should also try to keep clean and tidy and do not be unmindful of your health. Please note that it is the joint efforts of all of us that can make this occasion a success that it deserves Let all of us be praying that God may shower His blessings on our deliberations; these days are full of blessings and it is therefore essential that we should spend our time in supplicating to God.

"When in 1891 the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, started the Jalsa Salana, he said in a Poster that he published to announce it : "All those who have joined this fold sincerely should know that the aim of the Baiat is that the love of this world should diminish and the love of God and the love of Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, should dominate their persons and they should be so cut off from this world that passing to the next world may not look undesirable. In order to achieve this objective it is vitally important that they should stay with me and benefit from my company and spend an appreciable part of their life for this purpose. Maybe, God willing, they see a sign from Him and their weaknesses and flaws will be removed and they will be filled with certainty of faith and they will increase in zeal and vigour and their love will kindle the more. ... Such speeches will be made at the Jalsa that faith and certainty will increase and God relisation will advance further Also prayers will be offered that God may draw them towards Himself and He may accept them and bring about a pious change in them.

(Ishtihar Asmani Faisla)

These words of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, show clearly that the object of this Jalsa is to bring about a change in those who come to attend it.

As for the object of the advent of the Promised Messiah, he says :

When God saw that the world was full of evil and sin, he sent me to preach the truth and to reform the world ; this is what the times needed. The thirteenth century had passed and the fourteenth had started. I. therefore, in compliance with His commandment started telling the people through speeches and through the written word that the person who had to appear at the head of century has appeared and that person is none other than myself. And I have been sent so that the faith that had disappeared should be established once again and with the help and power of God I should draw the people towards reformation and fear of God and truthfulness and I should remove their wrong beliefs and practical faults A few years after this I was clearly told through revelation that the Messiah who had been promised to this *Umra* and the Mahdi who had been destined to get guidance from God and bring the people to heavenly provision and who had been foretold by the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, thirteen centuries ago, is none other but myself.

(Tazkiratush-Shahadatain)

These words of the Promised Messiah show that when a long period of time had passed after the advent of the perfect Redeemer of mankind and the world forgot its Creator and abandoned acting upon the teachings of Holy Quran and mistakes crept into the beliefs and actions, then in perfect accordance with the prophecy of the Holy Prophet and the promise of God, the Promised Messiah was raised to bring the world back to God and to establish the relationship of mankind with its Creator. He was raised to prove the truthfulness of the teachings of the Holy Prophet so that the people may once again truly and sincerely join the fold of Islam. But when the Promised Messiah started pursuing the duty that was assigned to him, there was a hue and cry on all sides. The Christians visualised that the idol of Trinity was breaking into pieces and therefore they started opposing him in full force. They were quick to realise that with the weapon of the death of Jesus in his hands, they could not prove the divinity of Jesus Not only the Christians, in fact the followers of all religions in India, offered him great opposition. His own people as well as others, all of them, became his opponents. But God had told the Mahdi that He would help him with forceful attacks (on his opponents) and had promised him success. We are now witness to the fulfilment of those promises.

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This was just a lone voice that rose from the unknown village of Qadian but the echo of that voice is now being heard in the far off continent of America. Africa, the Islands, Europe and the areas where it was claimed that Christianity was dominant can hear this voice and with the grace of God thousands of people are abandoning Christianity and joining the fold of Islam and they are praying for the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. Here in our midst we have delegates from all these places who have travelled long distances to attend this Jalsa. What a glaring proof of the truth of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him. Previously they were spiritually dead. They have now been blessed with believing in the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. The truth and light of the Holy Quran has dawned on them. Their hearts and heads are lit up with the spiritual matters

mentioned in the Holy Quran. They, now, know that it is a living book and Islam is a living religion and it offers a solution for all the difficult situations of life.

The Promised Messiah presented to the world the true beauty of Islam. The dust that had settled on it was removed by him. The excellences that were hidden were made manifest by him. The Muslims who felt ashamed of calling themselves Muslims and who had despaired of the onward march of Islam, were filled with hope. The Promised Messiah removed the mistakes that had crept into the beliefs and actions. In fact he first defended Islam against all the attacks from outsiders and then he launched an attack on the false religions and pointed out their faults and falsities. He claimed that Islam is a universal religion and none other but Islam will become dominant in the near future ; he was raised for this very purpose.

Every day in the history of Ahmadiyyat, offers a proof of the fulfilment of the promises that God gave to the Promised Messiah. Most of them have been fulfilled and we are quite confident that every word that was uttered by the Promised Messiah will one day or the other see its fulfilment. God had given the glad tiding to the Promised Messiah in the following words :

"From now on, three centuries will not have passed when those who are waiting for Jesus (to come down from the skies) be they Muslims or Christians will be despaired and abandon this false belief and there will be only one religion in the world and only one Spiritual guide. I have come to sow the seed and I have done so. Now it will have its increase and it will continue to grow while no one will be able to check its growth.

(Tazkiratush Shahadatain)

On the occasion of Jalsa Salana, 1973, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III told the Jamaat that the second century of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat will Insha Allah be the century of the dominance of Islam. The time left is only fourteen to fifteen years and that is not a long period in the life of nations This period is going to end In 1989 i e. that is the year which will be the starting point of the second century of the Jamaat But it must be remembered that whenever a glad tiding is given to a people there is also a point of fear hidden in that glad tiding. The promises of God are always conditioned and the Holy Quran has many examples cited in it. For example it is said : انتم الاعلون ان كنتم مومنين

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(Antumul Aalauna in kuntum Mo'mineen]. The victory is for the true believers. Same is the case with the promises that have been given in connection with the establishment and continuation of Khilafat. If the people remain true believers and continue doing good deeds, the institution of Khilafat would continue to be there with them. Through the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, God has blessed the Ahmadiyya Jamaat with the institution of Khilafat, and has promised the victory of Islam through them. But it is vitally important that our faith must be perfect and we must do appropriate deeds. Another point that must be remembered is that it is in the nature of man that he struggles only for such things as he is confident that he can or he is destined to obtain. We should not worry about the trials and tribulations ; they are just petty tests for us. We are passing through them and in future also we will have

to be passing through them. But the will of God must come to pass and nobody can stop it from coming to pass.

The appropriate deeds are also the result of confidence. The next fourteen to fifteen years are the years of preparation for the test which is bound to bring about success for us. All of us should move forward shoulder to shoulder and we should move faster and faster than ever before. There should be no slackness in our movement, neither the slackness of belief nor the slackness of action. Do not forget that in the early days of Islam when large number of people started joining the fold of this noble religion some of the weak from among them brought some points of their previous religions along with them and introduced them among the Muslims. These things covered the beautiful face of Islam and the opponents are still raising objections against them. We must be careful about it and it should not be repeated in this age of ours.

We have believed in the Promised Messiah the very aim of whose advent is that the religion should be revived and the Shariat should be established. It is the duty of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat to present the pure, beautiful and most practical teaching of Islam to the world—we have to do so through our words and through our deeds. It is most essential that the practical side of Islam should be exhibited in our lives Hazrat Ayesha, may God be pleased with her, on being asked, told the people that the morals of the Holy Prophet were the Holy Quran; in other words his life was an example of the teachings of the Holy Quran. That is what we have to do. We must practise what we profess and preach. There should be no contradiction in our words and deeds. We claim to bring the whole world under the banner of the Holy Prophet. How would it look if we ourselves did not act upon his teachings. If we are slack in prayers and we do not fast and we do not contribute a part of our wealth for the cause of Islam, how can we tell others that they should become Muslims and do all these things.

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My dear sisters! The glad tidings that we have been given are great and the time of the dominance of Islam is getting nearer-that is the time when you will see the light of the victory of Islam. You have to make sacrifices - you have to sacrifice your time, your habits, your children, your wealth. You have to prepare your daughters for all sacrifices. They have to carry out the responsibilities that future will place on their shoulders.

I should like to appeal to the mothers of today that they should teach the Holy Quran to their daughters, they should teach the translation of the Holy Quran, they should tell them to read the books of the Promised Messiah, they should imbibe the love of religion in their hearts, they should give them the love of God and the love of the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, they should give them the love of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him. In short they should give them everything that makes them true believers so that even the greatest of the trials will not shake them. They should be such that they discuss the Holy Quran and Islam instead of discussing clothes, jewellary and furniture. Everyone of them should try to excel others in the service of Islam and in piety and purity of heart.

We have not been able to hold

the Jalsa for two years and I could see that some of our members have started showing laxty. It is in the nature of man that he must always be reminded and that is why God tells the Holy Prophet in the Holy Quran : Fa zakkir innama anta muzakkir (you should remind, for, your duty is to remind the people). When we find someone going astray and keep silent then we are offenders in the sight of God and in the sight of the Holy Prophet. It is our duty to admonish the people and we have to be telling them again and again what is expected of them. It is your duty to save the next generation of yours from the fire. It is your duty to see that they get themselves engaged in the religious affairs; they should keep company of good people and that will help them to become religious minded.

My daughters who are the mothers of future ! You are the real addressees of mine today. Those who are to come in the lap of Islam in the second century of Ahmadiyyat, are to be brought up by you. Every girl who is present here at the Jalsa should add 12 to 13 years in her age and see what their age will be when the next century will start You are the ones who have to manage things for the Ahmadiyya Centenary Jalsa and can you realise how great that occasion will be. If you don't realise this fact today, you will not be able to do anything after thirteen years when a very large number of people will have to be brought up in the pure traditions of Islam.

(To be continued)

Your Tongue, Please

While using your tongue, please

(1) Do not tell lies
(2) Do not make false promises
(3) Do not indulge in back biting
(4) Do not accuse anybody
(5) Do not slander
(6) Do not be equivocal
(7) Do not flatter others
(8) Do not indulge in meaningless talks
(9) Do not become too much of talkative
(10) Do not talk of sinful things
(11) Do not criticise others just to pose yourself better
(12) Do not be quarrelsome
(13) Do not be unrealistic
(14) Do not be abusive
(15) Do not curse anyone
(16) Do not leak out the secrets of others
(17) Do not mock at others
(18) Do not take the gossips as the aim of your life
(19) Do not indulge in poetry to such an extent that life may lose its meaning for you
(20) Do not indulge in discussions which are much beyond your understanding

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(1) Keep your tongue well engaged in the rememberance of Allah
(2) Recite the Holy Quran
(3) Offer Salat for the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him
(4) Offer your five daily prayers (and other Nafl prayers also)
(5) Always speak the truth
(6) Supplicate to God
(7) Ask for the forgiveness of your sins
(8) Talk gently and talk of good things
(9) Tell others to be doing good deeds
(10) Tell others to shun evil deeds
(11) Bear true witness
(12) Make promises that you can fulfil.

Tahrik i-Jadid

Address to Lajna Imaillah

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Jalsa Salana, 1975

RASHIDAH SALIHEEN SAEED

National President, Lajna America

Dear Sisters,

Asslamo Alaikum

It is a great honour to be able to address Lajna Imaillah on this most auspicious occasion. Many sisters have travelled great distances, have undergone innumerable hardships and have made immense sacrifices in order to attend this blessed gathering. One's attendance here is representative of Allah's Grace and Mercy. The barriers of time and place have been ripped asunder and have thus united us under one common banner. The banner of Islam.

For us Islam represents peace, submissiveness, brotherhood and ultimately one world-wide religious community. Countries, cities, towns, villages will one day emerge under this banner. No longer will there be isola ed communities without any attachment to the known world. Mass modern transportation systems have eradicated this to some extent and the future will demonstrate to us how the world will appear even smaller and more shrunken. The truth of Allah's revealed teachings continue to become apparent and visible to the eyes of those who can see. The Holy Quran says

> And He has created horses and mules and asses that you may ride them and as a source of beauty. And He will create what you do not yet know. (16 : 9)

This prophecy has been wonderfully fulfilled in the form of railway trains, steamships, motor cars, aeroplanes, spacecrafts, etc. These mechanical devices have allowed Islam to be carried to various corners of the earth. Where there was once darkness, light now exists, for the ray of Islam Ahmadiyya, has penetrated the depths of the earth.

In America, Islam has touched only a few of the people's hearts. Its future growth is dependent upon us, the Ahmadis. It is through Ahmadiyya that Americans can best learn how to exist peacefully together and how to dispose of the evils which prevail in their everyday society. The preponderance of immoral acts influence directly and indirectly the youth of America. One only has to glance over a newspaper, open a magazine, listen to the news over TV and the radio, or simply to look through the front window. Recently one Ahmadi sister witnessed the brutal slaying of a neighbour on her street. The effect of this incident on her children and family is only known to Allah. As we are taught that environmental experiences influence us physically and spiritually, it is during such times that reliance on Allah for strength, direction and guidance is much needed.

About two weeks ago, a newscaster reported robbery of a gas station. The attendants, which were two in number, were tied up by the burglars. They waited patiently for

someone to come and untie them and report the injustice to the police. The first gentleman who entered the gas station building observed the situation and was asked by the attendants to untie them and call the police. The gentleman ignored their plea and proceeded to help himself with gas for his car and other items he needed. Of course, he forgot to pay, untie the attendants and call the police. This procedure occured over and over again until the number rose to 112. Yes, one hundred and twelve persons entered the gas station, perceived the situation and refused to be of any assistance. Then one gentleman, may Allah reward him for his honesty, responded positively. He untied the attendants and called the police.

These two incidents are tame in comparision to other atrocities happening everyday in America. Child abuse, rape, illegal business transactions, murders, illegal drug taking, thefs, illegitimate births, couples living together without legal contracts, all have to be dealt with at some time or other by the Ahmadi family. The responsibility for guiding the children through this mass of vices centres on the Ahmadi Mother.

Even before birth the Mother has an effect upon the character of the child. With birth, the child comes under the Mother's direct care. It is she who has the advantage in moulding and shaping the child's character. She can watch him as he develops physically from a tiny baby and as he grows from one stage to another she can ascertain his virtues and weaknesses, reinforce his positive traits, and guide his attitudes, so that the qualities of trustworthiness, truthfulness, honesty and obedience are acquired. She trains him to be independent and self-reliant. She helps him to develop a sense of self-respect and most important of all she directs him in the path of Islam.

During the early years of child's growth in an American Ahmadi home the child emulates his family and thereby assimilates many Islamic habits. Babies begin to prostrate and say Allaho Akbar before they can walk. Babies whose mothers observe Purdah realize when they are going outside. Once they began walking infants even go and get their coats so that they may accompany Mother. Even if it is one-hundred degrees outside they will not depart from the home without their coats.

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Also in America today, when a Muslim child walks down the street he bears witness to many of the social changes which would be in vogue among women during the time of the Promised Messiah as described by the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. According to one tradition the women of the time were to seem undressed in spite of being dressed. Now many of our Ahmadi Mothers have donned the veil and they stand out in a crowd. They could never be mistaken for an undressed woman. They are proud to say, "We are different". "We do not follow your perverse customs". And they even display their proudness more when their young ones ask, "Why are the people staring at you Ummi ?

American Ahmadi children also are proud. They are proud of their Islamic heritage. A christian child was visiting in a Muslim home where two Islamic boys, ages 3 and 4 were residing. At mealtime the Muslim children told the christian child to say Bismillahi. At first the Christian child did not understand what they were telling him to say, but when he did understand he immediately responded. At this same meal the Muslim Mother

overheard the younger of the two Muslim children taunt, "We're Muslim, You're not." "We're Muslim, you're not." Upon hearing this story I wondered exactly how many years would pass before the situation would be reversed. Ironic as it may sound, one cannot help picturing these same Muslim children being taunted by Christian children in the near future, especially if they are exposed to and are allowed to attend the Public Schools. The American Public Education System not only taunts, 'We're Christian, You're not", but most times it leaves a deleterious effect on the child. There is no escape for the Ahmadi child. Christian ideology pervades the society from top to bottom and in time the child encounters it head on. The Mother battles constantly and prays fervently that her children be spared its influence. She holds on to the ray of light, the light of Islam which has reached her from across the ocean. She instructs her child to the best of her ability as she herself fights to remain aloof from its sway.

The peer pressure group of the Ahmadi child can be and often is the Ahmadi Mother's worst enemy. How many times is she told, "Johnny does it, why can't I?" And how many times does the child hear, "Come on, your mother won't know. You can do the same things we do. Just watch." It is during such instances that the child's early Islamic training must triumph. The principles of right and wrong, obedience and disobedience must surface and hopefully the child makes the right decision.

As the future of Ahmadiyya in America depends upon its youth and the education of the young falls basically within the sphere of the women one cannot help wondering if there is some way that some of the negative influences which the young encounter could be minimized and the Mother's task rendered less exigent. What if the American Ahmadis had their own private school system? Their own community? How important is it to educate the young Ahmadis ourselves? How can we lighten the burden of educating our children in an alien environment? How can we best transmit Islam to the youth of today and preserve Ahmadiyya for the generations of tomorrow?

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These are the questions that confront us at this time. We believe that our desires and dreams for the young will become a reality soon and that success and progress will be gained through our whole-hearted sacrifices and efforts. In the meantime we keep the words of the Holy Quran close to our hearts.

> O ye who believe, seek help through perserverance and Prayer; surely Allah is with those who patiently perservere. (2 : 154)

Jazakamullah for your attention. Our last words are :

> "All praise for Allah, the Lord of the Worlds."

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A Progressing Community

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Following is the text of a speech delivered by Justice A.R. Bakare at the 26th Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Nigeria.

The Amir, Brothers and Sisters-in-Islam, Assalamo Alaikum W. W.

I welcome you all most heartily to the 26th Annual Conference of our Mission. It is significant that we are holding our Conference a second time this year. We met for the 25th Conference in March at which meeting I urged that we should be more and more steadfast in our faith. In December, 1973 when the 24th Annual Conference was held, the theme of my address was "Unity and Faith".

I offer no apology for my charges to you on both occasions. After the turbulent beginning of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Nigeria over 50 years ago, 1973 saw the rise of an organised world propaganda against us. That was the year that we were labelled infidels and deprived of the opportunity of performing the holy pilgrimage of Hajj. The year 1974 witnessed series of atrocities committed against the Ahmadis in Pakistan which culminated in the resolution of the parliament of that Country declaring the Ahmadis non-Muslim minority.

What has been the outcome of these pernimious propaganda? Internationally, we have grown from strength to strength. The Annual Conferences held in Rabwah since 1973 have been attended by more delegates from all over the world than in the past. This year for the first time, we in Nigeria are sending a woman delegate along with a man. In Europe which I visited in 1974, I found the spirit of our members very high indeed in spite of all odds.

Back home, our membership continues to grow. New Missions have been established in neighbouring countries and more and more dedicated individuals are declaring for the Mission. The ban on the performance of the pilgrimage to Mecca has in no way dampened our spirits. On the contrary, it has strengthened our faith.

We believe in the words of the Holy Quran that "To Allah belongs the east and the west and that those who forbid Allah's name being glorified in His Mosques for them is disgrace in this world and a great chastisement in the next".

Our improvement, educationally, socially and in religious matters has also been significant. Every section of our community vies to build a mosque for the worship of Allah. Hospitals are opened and manned for the care of the sick by our members. In fact, we now have a reputable surgeon in the country to help in our medical programme. Educationally, we continue to give the lead. You might have read recently that a philantropist educationist in this country decided to surrender his school to a State Government without compensation. The move is by any measure a laudable one. But I am happy to say that our Mission gave the lead in this matter. As early as 1972 when the matter of the "take over" of schools in the country started to gain momentum, our Mission announced unequivocally its readiness to hand over to State Governments all our Schools without receiving a brass half kobo as compensation.

I attended the 2nd Annual Ansarullah Ijtema held in November this year at Ilaro and I was convinced of the spirit of dedication of our members, a spirit which pervades all over the country, to improve themselves Islamic wise. I saw there an Arabic School under construction which it is hoped will open for use in January, 1976.

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Gradually, the noise against us as sect in Islam is dying down. This is because no individual or community however powerful can fight successfully against progress. We are indeed a progressive and divine community.

This is the reward of courage which is part and parcel of our religion—Islam, and which is in-born with members of the Ahmadiyya Mission all over the world.

We take lead also in the translation of the Holy Quran to all the languages that people speak so that they can be able better to understand the message.

We ought to be proud of our achievements and strive to be more dedicated to our service to Allah and humanity.

This conference is to last three days. Eminent people will address you on various subjects to remind you all of your duty to Allah.

I pray that we should all derive maximum benefits from the lectures that have been arranged and that when we go back to our different stations, we will impart the knowledge we have gained to our brethern who are not privileged to be here with us.

Again, I thank you all for coming to the conference and I wish our deliberations every success.

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THE REVIEW OF RELIGIONS

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

This is an organ of the
AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT

address
The Review of Religions,
Rabwah—Pakistan.

NOTES & COMMENTS

The Holy Quran

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

Commenting upon the verse :

ارئیت الذی یکذب بالدین

Hazrat Muslih Mauood, may God be pleased with him says in his Tafsir-i-Kabir : Whenever anyone disbelieves in the fact of being judged on the Day of Judgement and denies the award of rewards or punishments, he becomes bold in committing sins. There are thousands of good deeds that people do because they fear the consequences of not doing them and also there are thousands of good deeds that the people do because they hope to get good reward. So far as the rewards and punishments are concerned they are not connected only with the next world, they are to be met with here in this world also. The Holy Quran has mentioned this fact in several places that the rewards and the punishments do not start in the next world, they actually begin here and in this world. The chastisement which the disbelievers of the Prophets undergo or the punishments that are received by those who violate the law of nature, are not the things of the next world ; they are meted out here on this earth. This verse therefore does not refer to those who do not believe in the judgement being held on the day of Resurrection ; it really refers to the consequences of evil deeds - whether the consequences are met with in this world or in the next world.

It is a common knowledge that those who do not believe in the Hell and the Heaven but do believe in the punishment of evil deeds, are saved from thousands of bad actions. For example there are some people who do realise that the result of the national degradation is bad. They know that if some bad qualities are allowed to flourish the nation is doomed for destruction. On the other hand if good morals are developed, the nation is saved from being ruined. If a nation is highly educated, it is truthful, hardworking, salf-sacrificing, then it is bound to make progress. This also is linked with the principle of the award of rewards and punishments. That is why the nations who begin to realise that these qualities can do them good, they begin to reform themselves. The European nations are Christian and they believe in the rewards and punishments (though it may be a verbal belief) ; they are practically atheists and the hope for the next world is entertained either by their ignorant people or by the Clergy they have found out through their deep study of history that nothing goes unrewarded. The act, be it individual or collective, it does produce some results and also the good deeds produce good results and the bad deeds produce bad results. Therefore they believe that every action must produce its results and for that very reason they try to keep the national moral high and in good conidition ; they do not do so to please God. They do not speak the truth to please God but they do so because they know that if they do not speak the truth people will lose confidence in them and without confidence they cannot gain their co-operation They know that if they do not speak the truth, their trade will not flourish, becase lack of confidence in them.

(Tafsir-i-Kabir, Suratul Maoon)

The Hadith

Hazrat Abdur Rahman reports his father as saying: The Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, was riding his camel and somebody was holding the reins of the camel. The Holy Prophet said: What day is it today? We kept silent because we thought he might give another name to the day. He said: Is this not the day of sacrifice? We said: Yes, it is. Then he said: Which month is this? We kept silent because we thought that he might give it another name. He said: Is it not Zul Hajja? We said: Yes, it is. Then he said: In this town, and in this month, the protection that God has given to this day, the same protection He has granted to your lives, wealth and honour. He who is listening to me should go and tell others, for, it is quite possible that he who would hear from him would tell somebody else with a better memory and that person may be in a better position to remember this word of mine.

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This Hadith is quite clear about the way the Muslims should deal with one another. If everybody paid heed to it, there would be no crimes and the life would become worth living on this planet.

But it is a pity that we see all around us is quite opposite to what the Holy Prophet is reported to have said in this Hadith. The Muslims, are killing Muslims, they are robbing them of their valuables they are abducting Muslim girls and in fact they are committing all sorts of heinous sins against their fellow beings. We wish and pray that the Muslims pay heed to this saying of the Lord and Master whose every word must be treasured and according to whose words and deeds everyone of us should mould his life.

May God enable all of us to do so. Amen.

—◀▶—

It does not look nice that in this column of notes and comments anything should be published without comments, but some times that has to be done. Below we reproduce a news item which we leave to our readers for their individual comments. They may see it in the light in which they want to see it and they may think of it whatever they please.

The news item is headed as 'Beer without alcohol' and the text runs thus:

"A British brewery may soon be selling beer with a zero alcohol content to teetotaller Muslims in the Middle East "The Daily Telegraph" reported yesterday.

The newspaper said that Saudi Arabian businessmen contacted Dr. Richard Theakstone, Managing Director of a firm of that name when he went recently to the Food and Drink Fair in Cologne, West Germany.

They said to tizzy lemonade and similar soft drinks the answer they thought was beer, but without any alcohol.

Initial consignment of this unusual beer was flown this week to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

It was described as 'slightly darker than best bitter' with a good hope flavour.

If a contract is signed Mr Theakstone plans to open a brewery in Saudi Arabia. AFP

(The Pakistan Times 14 Oct. 1975)

Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation **NASEEM SAIFI**

ISLAM AND FUTURE

MY subject this evening is Islam and Future. Does it seem to you that two unconnected words "Islam" and "Future" have been put together ! It is not so. These two words are, in fact, so closely connected with each other that they can never be separated. You know Islam is a religion, and the truth of a religion can be more easily confirmed by what it says about the future. A religious book says : "But the Prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, how shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken ? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously : Thou shalt not be afraid of him."

What a golden principle it is. And all that it says is that the truth of the claim of a prophet, or in other words of a religion, is based on the fulfilment of what the prophet says about future. Thus, if Islam has to be proved a true religion, it is of vital importance that we should find out what it says about the future and how it has come to pass.

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And for that, we have to look into the Holy Quran Are there any prophecies in it ? Have they been fulfilled ? How have those prophecies been fulfilled ? These are the questions that we shall have to answer before we can say that Islam is a true religion and that, it deals with the future just as much as it deals with the present.

The first question then, is : Are there any prophecies in the Holy Quran The answer is in the affirmative. The Holy Quran is actually full of prophecies. There are prophecies about the religion of Islam, about the Holy Quran, about the Holy Prophet, about mankind in general, about the universe, about the ways of life, about scientific researches, about the new discoveries, about the treasures coming out of the earth about the new canals being dug out and about the mountains being blown up with the dynamites. All these, and many more things are mentioned in the Holy Quran in the form of prophecies. And all these prophecies have been fulfilled. Let us first take the prophecy about Islam itself. You know in what circumstances Islam was ushered into

the world. How weak and helpless was the Founder of Islam. An orphan young man with no physical means and no worldly support His opponents were great and powerful people and their persecution reached the extreme of sending him out of his home town. When he was still within the bounds of his home-town, he was troubled in every possible way and the few weak and poor followers of his were made to suffer more than the traditional slaves. It was in these circumstances that God revealed to him : 'When the help of Allah comes, and the victory, And thou seest men entering the religion of Allah, in troops, glorify thy Lord, with His praises and seek forgiveness of Him. Surely He is oft-returning with compassion."

Could the Holy Prophet ever think of men entering his religion which he found difficult to preach in his own home town ? Of course if he had to think of himself and if he had to base his success on his personal strength, he could never imagine the troops entering his religion. But it was God talking to him and giving him the news of the future. And who does not know that the troops of men did enter the fold of Islam. The critics of Islam have never been able to deny the fact that the Holy Prophet was the most successful of all the prophets and his religion had the greatest success in the shortest time. Ten years is not a long period of time in the life of a religion. But look at the first ten years of Islam in Medina. The Holy Prophet had fled to Medina with only one companion. Ten years later he returned to Mecca with ten thousand saints in the midst of whom he was the chiefest. And ten years more and another ten years. Within this period of thirty years, the words of God to which I have made reference had been fulfilled and their truth become crystal clear like the meridian sun.

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Let us take the Holy Quran. You know when the Holy Quran was revealed, there were no good means of preserving the writings People used to write on the skin of the animals and slabs of clay. Nobody could ever imagine that what was being revealed to the Holy Prophet was to be preserved for all the time to come. The Holy Prophet himself seemed to be quite anxious about the fate of the Holy Quran. But then the Almighty God revealed to him : Verily We shall be its guardian." And how has God the Almighty guarded this Book. It is a wonderful and very interesting story Fourteen centuries have passed and this Book has remained exactly as it was handed down by the Founder of Islam. No change has ever taken place in it. All the religious Books of all the other religions have been interpolated ; they have either become bigger or smaller because human hand has been interfering with them. The word of God in those books has got mixed up in such a way that the corn can never be separated from the chaff now. But as for the Holy Quran, it has remained intact. And let me say with all the confidence at my command and with the justifiable pride that no change shall ever be made in this book. This book is not only written on the paper, God has put it in the hearts of thousands and tens of thousands of people all over the world. Every word of it is safe ; every vowel of it is safe. The Muslims, with the grace of God, have never cast down their heads to say that the changes are only in the language and not in the text. No. No. It never happens at all. There are neither any changes of the text nor of the language. And all this, because God spoke to the Holy Prophet

and said, "Verily We have revealed this exhortation (the Holy Quran) and verily We shall be its guardian." What a great prophecy about the future of the Holy Quran and how splendidly it has been fulfilled.

I have said before that the Holy Quran is full of prophecies about everything in the world. I should like to quote a historical prophecy. Referring to the incident of Moses crossing the sea the Holy Quran says: "And We brought the children of Israel across the sea; and Pharaoh and his hosts pursued them wrongfully and aggressively, till when the calamity of drowning overtook him, he said, I believe that there is no God but He in whom the children of Israel believe, and I am of those who submit to Him What, now! whilst Thou wast disobedient before this and wast of those who create disorder. So this day We will save thee in Thy body alone that thou mayest be a sign to those who come after thee. And surely, many of mankind are heedless of Our signs."

Since the drowning of Pharaoh, it was considered that his body had been lost. Nobody knew anything about it. But God revealed to the Holy Prophet that the body of Pharaoh had been preserved. I am sure anybody who read this account in the Holy Quran must have been laughing and asking himself as to how could that be.

But hundreds of years after this revelation, a time came when the body of Pharaoh was found out and then everybody knew that this prophecy had also been fulfilled like all the other prophecies made by the Holy Prophet of Islam, peace and blessings of God be upon him. So far as the preservation of the body of Pharaoh is concerned it is considered to be so important that when Egypt was not safe in the last war, the mumy of Pharaoh was removed from there to the British Museum. Of course, it has again been brought back to Egypt and a friend of mine who recently travelled through Egypt brought the photographs of that mumy and when I saw it I was overwhelmed with joy for that was a clear fulfilment of the words of God which said, "So this day We will save thee in thy body alone that thou mayest be a sign to those who come after thee."

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I have also referred to the blowing up of the mountains, digging of canals, inventions and new discoveries. In fact if I have to take up all these things. I would require much more time than can be allowed to me in this programme. I should like my listeners to study the Holy Quran and find out themselves how clearly the present age in which we are living is portyard in this Book of God. Read chapter 99 and you will be lable to understand better the meaning and significance of all that is being unearthed in various parts of the world. In some places, we are told, the archeologists have only to scratch the ground and they find a papyrus of very great value. That is to which the Holy Quran refers as the earth turning out its burdens. As if God has revealed to it that it should throw these things out which she has kept in herself for hundreds and thousands of years. Aga n, read chapter 81 and you will find out how the Holy Quran had told of the future so precisely that nobody could ever imagine of it. I am tempted to read a part of that chapter to you: Here it is: 'When the sun is wrapped up, and when the stars are obscured and when the mountains are made to move and when the camels are abandoned and

(*Continued on page 31*)

WHAT THEY SAY

THE services rendered by the Jamaat in the field of Education and Health are highly appreciated by the dignitaries of West Africa. A few opinions are given below :

1. Commander J. K. Amedume, Regional Commissioner, Central Region, Ghana.

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Speaking on the occasion of the inauguration of the New Building of Ahmadiyya Hospital Agona Swedru, on 4th May, 1974, Commander J.K. Amedume said :

> "I wish on behalf of the Government to thank the Ahmadiyya Mission in Ghana for their foresight, determination and success in building this Hospital ..The National Redemption Council Government is indeed happy for the role the Ahmadiyya Movement of Ghana is playing in the Educational and Health needs of the people of this Country. We need not recount the activities of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Ghana because the Schools and Hospitals dotted throughout the Country bear ample testimony to the part they are playing in the reconstruction of this country of ours. The Agona Swedru Hospital which we are here to open officially today adds one more land mark to the forward search and successes of the Ahmadiyya Movement in this country ....I have, over the past months followed with keen interest the activities of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Ghana particularly in the Central Region and I am always very impressed with what you do in the moral moulding of the minds of the children and men of this country. I commend you for this and I hope your task, although difficult, as it must be, will be successfully completed in this country."

2. Alhaji Ibrahim Gusao, Commissioner for education, Nigeria.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Ahmadiyya Secondary School, Minna on 18th July, 1971, the Commissioner for Education Alhaji Ibrahim Gusao declared :

> "This is a unique occasion in many ways because this is the first time that a Muslim Organisation has come forward in a big way to participate in our Educational Development Programme by establishing two Secondary Schools in this State in one year. This is a very promising beginning and I should like to assure the Ahmadiyya Mission of my Ministry's full cooperation and support always in this noble task."

3. Honourable Alhaji Garba Jahumpa, Minister of Health, Education and Social Welfare, Gambia

In November 1971 Honourable Alhaji Garba Jahumpa represented Gambia in the Common wealth Medical Conference held in Mauritius at Darussalaam, Rosehill, Mauritius. Addressing the gathering on that occasion the Minister said :

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"We are very grateful, in particular my humble self who happened to be Minister of Education, Health and Social Welfare at the time when the Honourable Hazrat (Khalifatul Masih III) visited my country. I am proud to say as a result of that Great Visit we are benefiting immensely in our social services. There are Doctors operating not only at Kaur, but also at Salikene, Gunjur, Kwinella and at Bathurst, not very far away where I live in city. All these are blessings showered on the Gambia Muslims by the great minds and tolerance and perserevance and kindness of the Ahmadiyya Muslims. We shall remain grateful for this Medical service to the poor, the middle class and the rich also. Thousands of pounds will be spent in this country by the Ahmadiyya Mission. This is Islam in reality."

4. Honourable Bangali Mansaray, Resident Minister, Northern Province. Sierra Leone.

Speaking on the occasion of the opening of Ahmadiyya Secondary School and Ahmadiyya Health Centre at Rokupr, Honourable Bangali Mansaray said :

"The Government has accepted the services of the Ahmadiyya Muslim in Sierra Leone, and I am happy to say that Government is highly appreciative of the services rendered by them in both Medical and Educational spheres .....It is quite obvious that the Educational achievements by the Ahmadiyya Mission in Sierra Leone within a short space of time, are a clear indication that Victory for Islam is nigh."

(*Continued from page 28*)

when the beasts are gathered together and when the seas are made to flow forth and when people are brought together and when the girl child buried alive is questioned as to for what crime was she killed and when books are spread abroad... and so forth and so on. Let me also read a portion of chapter 82. "When the heaven is cleft asunder and when the stars are scattered and when the rivers are made to flow forth into canals, and when the graves are laid open .....

"Islam and Future" is the subject on which I am talking. But this subject cannot be easily exhausted. Future is like a sea. Islam is like a telescope which can see through the water.

Indeed, "Islam" and "Future" are the two words which are very closely connected. They cannot be separated. Islam is full of prophecies about the future and all the prophecies of Islam have either come to pass or they are coming to pass. I am therefore drawing the attention of all and sundry to this noble religion. Dear listeners ! have you ever thought over this aspect of Islam ? May God bless you all. Amen.

From the Newspapers

Christian Hierarchy in the Holy Land of Islam

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

'For more or less 1,300 years dignitaries from the Christian churches have been unable to enter Saudi Arabia.

'For the first time in 1,300 years .....isn't that something of an event ?

'The event which will now take place, is the establishment of a Christian Hierarchy in Islam's Holy Land, Saudi Arabia.

'This agreement has been reached as one of the most important points during a discussion between the Patriarch of Antiochia, Elias IV, and the high Protector of the Islamic Holy places, King Khalid, in the residence of the latter at Riadh.

'The future seat of the Orthodox Metropolitan will be in the oil province of Al-Hasa, where a good number of Orthodox technicians of Greek or Arab origin are living with their families.

'It is very extraordinary that Orthodox and other Christian dignitaries are accepted as visitors in the Holy Land of Islam.

'The Patriarch Elias IV is only the second one to be granted this privilege.

'In 1947 the Roman Cardinal attached to the Curia, Sergio Pignedoli, was the first one to visit Riadh, to convey a personal letter from Pope Paul VI to the late King Faisal'.

(Bornholmeren, 27th Sept. 1975)

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Dover Scout Gets Award for Religion

Dover—A Dover area Boy Scout has received a high award from the American Fazl Mosque in Washington, D.C.

Mohammad Yasin Singer, 13, received the Islamic "In the Name of God" medal from Imam M S. Shahid, spiritual leader of Ahmadi Muslims in North America during services marking Eid ul Fitr, the Muslim religious holiday that signifies the end of the monthlong observance of Ramadan.

Yasin, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Abdullah Singer of Dover Rd 4, completed a course of study and projects to earn the award.

Among requirements for the award, his father said, a scout must lead a congregation in prayer, memorize all the prayers in Arabic, learn the requirements for the pilgrimage to Mecca, and be tested on the essentials of Islam such as the attributes of God, history of the prophetood, fasting, charity and animal sacrifice.

Yasin constructed various structures for the sheep and chickens that are slaughtered by Muslims for their consumption," Singer said.

"In addition to this community service project, he confirmed his personal commitment to his faith by delivering three speeches on Islam at St. Mary's School, Temple Beth and York College, where he spoke to a public meeting on the life of prophet Mohammad.

"Finally, an extensive examination was undertaken and submitted in writing to the national Islamic committee on scouting" Singer said.

Yasin is a student at St. Mary's Catholic School in York and a first-class scout in Troop 16, sponsored by the school.

As the winner of a scout citizenship contest, he recently served for a day as an honorary York police leader by the scouts in his troop.

The Singers live on a farm near Dover where a "farm lifestyle helps the children learn responsibility and independence," Singer said. The Singers have four children.

Singer once worked for the Associated Press in New York City, and was active in scouting work in Maryland before accepting a position with the York-Adams Boy Scout Council.

He brought his family to York County because he felt that a rural environment would be good for his children. The family does organic gardening, raises goats, sheep and chickens, and leads a "wholesome life," Singer said.

"We call our farm 'Tayyib Homestead' Homestead," and take the name from the Quran. Tayyib is an Arabic word meaning wholesome, and we think of our farm as a natural, wholesome place to live where we can grow good food and grow as individuals"

Yasin has a lot of chores and does "a good bit of physical work, which helps keep him strong and well both physically and mentally," his father said.

Yasmin is active in 4-H programmes, and is working with his brother to help him learn horseback riding for membership in the 4 H Trailblazers Horse and Pony Club

"Yasin has his own horses and ponies, and is responsible for caring for them, and he recently completed a scouting project in which he raised 100 chickens, killed and dressed them and sold them. He would not have been able to complete such a project in the city," Singer said.

(Sunday Patriot News Harisburg Pa
Oct. 19, 1975)

"Group moves to set up Carib. council"

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

The Ahmadiyya Movement of Trinidad, Guyana and Surinam has decided on the formation of a Caribbean Council.

This decision was taken at a specially-convened meeting at the Trinidad headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Association at Freeport Central Trinidad, at which representatives from the three countries participated.

Chief among these were Moulvi Mohammad Siddique and Moulvi Mohammed Aslam Qureshi, from Pakistan, now stationed in Surinam and Guyana respectively ; and Maulvi Mohammad Haniff Yacoob a local missionary trained at Ahmadiyya headquarters, Rabwah, Pakistan. representing Trinidad.

In deciding to form the Caribbean Council, the meeting proposed that nominations for officers be made by the missionaries and that the next meeting would be held in Guyana some time this year.

In seeking ways and means to implement a programme of greater propagation of Islam in the Caribbean, it was decided that recommendations should be made to Rabwah headquarters. At the same time a plan to make the proposed Ahmadiyya Centre in Georgetown the missionary training centre of the Caribbean has been postponed for further discussion.

The movement, which has some 10 million followers worldwide started in India and after the partition transferred its headquarters to Pkistan.

It has established a number of Schools, hospitals and mosques throughout the world.

(Express Jan. 5, 1976)

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